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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE-Public Health Service

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

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NEWS

VOL. XVIII, No. 2 Bethesda 14, Maryland FEBRUARY 1963

ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

The Public Health Service has announced the appointment of an Advisory Committee for Scientific Publications which has as its function the provision of technical reviews for grant applications relating to primary and secondary publications in the biomedical sciences. The Committee is under the auspices of the National Library of Medicine; Mr. Daniel Bailey, Program Director for Scientific Publications at the Library, will serve as its Executive Secretary. The Chairman is Dr. Richard R. Willey of Tucson, Arizona (formerly the Deputy Chief of the Division of Research Grants at the National Institutes of Health). The Committee has the following membership: Miss Gertrude L. Annan, New York Academy of Medicine Library; Dr. John Z. Bowers, Kyoto University Medical School, Japan; Dr. John L. Caughey, Jr., Western Reserve University School of Medicine; Mr. G. Miles Conrad, Biological Abstracts; Miss Louise Darling, University of California Biomedical Library, Los Angeles; Mr. Robert A. Harte, American Society of Biological Chemists; Dr. Bernard Holland, Emory University School of Medicine; Dr. G. Halsey Hunt, Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduates; Miss Eleanor Johnson, University of Chicago Bio-Medical Library; Mr. Frederick G. Kilgour, Yale Medical Library; Dr. Granville W. Larimore, New York State Department of Health; Dr. Malcolm H. Merrill, California State Department of Public Health; Dr. Sholom Pearlman, American Dental Association.

NLM SERIAL RECORD

The NLM Serial Record file is a record of current serials received, and in the nature of things the definition of "current" must be revised from time to time. Through the end of 1962 the definition was "at least one issue received in the period 1955 to date." Beginning this year the definition has become "at least one issue received in the period 1959 to date."

This change in definition required the removal of the entries for 2,442 titles for which no issues have been received for the period 1955-1958. Of these, 120 represent title changes; the remaining 2,322 titles are presumed dead.

As of the beginning of 1963 there remained in the Serial Record 13,423 entries. Of these, 189 titles are known to have ceased and 278 remain under an earlier form of the current name. This leaves 12,956 really "current" serial titles in the Serial Record.

Many of the ceased titles are accounted for by "project reports" sponsored by U. S. Government agencies. This is a questionable breed to include in a working definition of serials, in any event, and the project report titles which remain serve to distort this whole problem of enumerative bibliography.

FRENCH HISTORICAL WORK

Among the most attractive of recent imports from France is the sumptuously illustrated Histoire de la médecine et du livre médical, by Dr. André Hahn and Paule Dumaitre, with the collaboration of Janine Samion-Contet. They have provided brief outlines of the medical history of successive eras and of the history of the book, capped by generous descriptions of many of the treasures in the library of the Faculty of Medicine of Paris. There are 250 illustrations in black and white and 8 plates in color, reproducing title pages, woodcuts, and engravings from this ancient collection founded in the 14th century. For historians and bibliophiles alike, the book is a welcome delight.

TRANSLATION SUPPLEMENT

Vol. 22, No. 1, Part 2 of Federation Proceedings is the first issue of the Translation Supplement to the Proceedings. Sponsored by the National Library of Medicine, it replaces the cover-to-cover translation of nine journals previously supported by programs of the National Institutes of Health and the NLM. Its 192 pages contain 50 translations carefully selected and refereed by Federation editors on the basis of their originality and significance to American science.

Copies are distributed automatically to all subscribers of Federation Proceedings; the annual subscription rate for the Translation Supplement is $10 through the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, 9650 Wisconsin Avenue, Washington 14, D.C. The NLM has a limited number of copies of this first issue and will make them available to other medical libraries on request.

ROVING CAMERAS

On moving to the new building the National Library of Medicine instituted a new procedure for filming materials destined for interlibrary loan. Under the old plan books had been carried from the shelves to a centralized group of cameras; this involved temporary "loss" of material while it was in the pipeline and required multiple sorting and re-shelving operations. Under the new plan roving cameras were designed for use in the aisles of the stacks. Books are now brought to specially designated shelves at the end of each range; they are then photographed, returned to the special shelf, and finally replaced at their proper positions in the range. This has proved to be a great improvement, in terms of efficiency and economy.

One disturbing element was the power cord which had to be plugged into outlets on columns 21 feet apart. Lying on the floor the cords were a tripping hazard to the staff, and a source of dirty hands and temporary power failures to the camera operator. To remedy this situation NLM has installed an electric "feedrail" along the aisle ceiling. The cameras remain attached to this feedrail in an arrangement reminiscent of a trolley car. Rails have been installed in two of the main aisles of the stacks which hold recent issues of serials; these two rails, with their accompanying cameras, effectively cover four banks of ranges, i.e., the ranges on either side of each aisle so equipped. The mobile cameras may now rove more smoothly, thereby adding another element of efficiency to the interlibrary loan operation of the National Library of Medicine.

FEES FOR SPECIAL PHOTODUPLICATION SERVICES

The schedule of fees for photoduplication services at the National Library of Medicine has been revised. Charges for special photographic services are now as follows:

Photostat, negative, per page	$ .75
Photostat, positive, per page	1.50
Photograph, 8" x 10" or smaller	3.25
Copy negative	3.25
Film slide, 2¼" x 2¼", or 3¼" x 4"	3.25
Microfilm, negative, per 100 pages or fraction thereof, from any individual item	2.50
Diazo copy of existing NLM films, per reel	6.00
Xerox copy, per 100 pages or fraction thereof, from any individual item	5.00

No charge is made for the photoduplication of materials provided in accordance with the Library's policy for interlibrary loans. Prices for photographic services which are not covered above will be determined on an individual basis. Payment in advance is required; all checks and money orders should be made payable to the Treasurer of the United States and sent with the order to the National Library of Medicine.

SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

A number of social events and tours are being planned for the Second International Congress on Medical Librarianship, June 16-22, in addition to the seven program meetings scheduled during that week. Following the opening session on Sunday evening there will be a reception on the Terrace of the Shoreham Hotel. On Monday afternoon the American Medical Association is host for a reception at Georgetown University. On Tuesday evening the overseas librarians will be dinner guests in American homes in the Washington area. Wednesday is tour day, with open house at the National Library of Medicine and a picnic supper at the National Naval Medical Center. On Thursday the Medical Library Association will host a social hour preceding the Congress banquet. The Congress will also have a Hospitality Lounge in the headquarters hotel where coffee will be served on several days.

PUBLICATION

Check List of Basic Reference Aids for Small Medical Libraries, prepared by the National Library of Medicine in 1959, has been revised under the title Basic Reference Aids for Small Medical Libraries by Elizabeth Moseley and Miriam Hawkins. Copies are available from the Exchange Assistant, Technical Services Division, National Library of Medicine.

REFERENCE SERVICES

All service loads in the Reference Services Division area show marked increases for the first half of Fiscal Year 1963, compared to the same period for FY 1962. The following percentage increases are noted:

Reference questions answered	up 31%
Number of readers in library	up 82%
Number of readers' request slips	up 21%
Number of interlibrary loans	up 16%

On occasion near breakdowns in service have been caused by a heavy influx of students.

Use of funds for printing this publication approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, February 26, 1960

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